Executive Host Information 2005
Placement Week November 15-19, 2004

Office Name: **Biological Oceanography Program, Division of Ocean Sciences**

Position Title: Sea Grant Fellow – Science Associate

How many total staff are in your immediate office / branch? (Select one option, mark with X)

1-5	
6-10	
> 10	xx

Have you previously hosted a Sea Grant fellow (Select one option, mark with X)

Yes	xx
No	

If yes, how many? Seven

If fellow is currently on assignment, please provide contact information.

Name	Robyn Smyth and Evaristo Liwa
Tel	703-292-7857 703-292-4492
Email	rsmyth@nsf.gov and eliwa@nsf.gov

Does your office accept non-United States (foreign) citizens? (Select one option, mark with X)

Yes	xx
No	

Organizational Overview

Mission Statement: (Please limit to 30 words.)

The NSF supports basic scientific research in US academic and research institutions in most fields of science excepting medicine. In the Ocean Science Division, the NSF supports all manners of research on the world's oceans, from the coasts, to the blue ocean, to the ocean's depths; from biological, to geological, to chemical and physical oceanography.

Brief Overview of Your Office's work: (Please limit to 150 words.)

The Biological Oceanography Program supports research in marine ecology - relationships among marine organisms and their interactions with the geochemical and physical environment. Funded projects focus on understanding variability within marine ecosystems, including ocean margins, continental shelves, central gyres, basins, as well as the Great Lakes. Studies aim to determine the roles of organisms in ocean ecological and biogeochemical processes from microbial to global scales. Areas of research include ecosystem and biogeochemical processes, community and population ecology, behavioral, reproductive and life-history ecology, physiological and chemical ecology, molecular, cellular and biochemical studies, evolutionary ecology, and sometimes systematic biology and paleoecology.

Do you have partnership projects, multi-agency workgroups, or working relationships with other offices? Please list.

Global Ocean Ecosystems Dynamics, with NOAA
Ecology and Oceanography of Harmful Algal Blooms, w/ NOAA, EPA, NASA, ONR
European Commission / NSF Cooperation in Environmental Research: Harmful Algal Blooms
RIDGE2000 – Hydrothermal Vents Ecosystems, with the Geology and Geophysics community

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Assignment Description.

It is understood that the fellow's specific responsibilities will be tailored to his / her unique skills and interests. Please articulate probable assignments and duties and the education / professional development that these tasks will bring to the fellow.

Estimated Fellow Travel, Out-of-Office: (Select one option, mark with X)

0 days / month	
1-3 days / month	xx
4-7 days / month	
8-10 days / month	
> 2 weeks / month	

Estimated DC-Area Travel: (Select one option, mark with X)

0 days / month	
1-3 days / month	xx
4-7 days / month	
8-10 days / month	
> 2 weeks / month	

Does this position require mandatory skills: (Select one option, mark with X)

Yes	
No	xx

Desired Background Skills: Please list. (e.g. strong written / communication skills, knowledge of Microsoft PowerPoint software, etc.).

Understanding of ocean and ecological sciences; strong communication skills in oral and written form.
Basic understanding of information systems.
Enthusiasm, self-motivation, good team player

In 300 words or less, please describe the tasks, duties, or projects the fellow will undertake, the skills a fellow will gain, and the deliverables a fellow can expect to produce from completing these tasks.

This will be very much up to the blend of interests of the Fellow and the activities that we will be pursuing in the Program and the Division. The Fellow will have the opportunity to work within the Program and generally in the entire Division.

Take part in the entire spectrum of research proposal review and decision making for both special focus areas and general proposals across the field.

Take part in community science meetings.

Take part in the development of science initiatives with the science community.

Training in Program Management.

Create web / newsletter communications to the science community.

We have a number of specific activities this year that are non-recurring. The Genomics Enabled Environmental Science Project with Biology and Polar Programs at NSF; the NW Atlantic GLOBEC Synthesis Project with NOAA partners; NE Pacific – Gulf of Alaska GLOBEC Synthesis Project with NOAA partners.

We would also like to initiate some new workshop activities to work with the science community in outlining some important future areas for research emphasis (e.g., the crossroads of oceanography, evolutionary biology, and ecology).